

Illustration by Marjorie Leggitt From 'Colorado Rare Plant Field Guide'

DRABA GLOBOSA ROUND FRUITED DRABA

Round-fruited Draba is a small, stemless perennial that forms cushions of basal leaf rosettes which are up to 20 cm side, arising from a branched rootcrown. The lance-shaped to narrowly spoon-shaped leaves are 3-6 mm long and have a few stiff marginal hairs but are otherwise glabrous. 2-10 small yellow or sometimes white flowers are borne on top of a stalk that reaches up to 45 mm high. Each flower has 4 separate petals that are ca. 4 mm long, 4 separate sepals, and 4 long and 2 short stamens. The glabrous, compressed egg-shaped capsule, or silicle, is 3-8 mm long with a style projecting 0.2-0 7 mm from the tip. Flowering and fruiting in July.

Distinguished among the mat-forming perennial species of DRABA by the combination of having nearly glabrous leaves and glabrous fruits with a style greater than 0.2 mm. A hand lens or microscope and technical key are needed for positive identification.